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took a moment to express his gratitude. Thank you, Karen, and congratulations.

We also honored Clay Mitchell for being the “most talked about planner in NH”. No, seriously! Clay was part of the NH Union Leader “Forty under Forty”, which honors 40 up and coming people, all under the age of 40, who are making a difference in our state. Clay, now the town planner for Epping, has put forth an ordinance for the 2007 Town Meeting that addresses issues of alternative energy production, sustainable design, and methods to achieve these goals while at the same time, stabilizing costs. This ordinance is one of the first of its kind in N.H. and the United States. Good job Clay!



The conference concluded with a speech from Portsmouth Mayor Steve Marchand who discussed how the ideas of an improved downtown Portsmouth have come to reality. Since taking office, the Mayor has lead efforts on building re-use, energy efficiency, and saving the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for the City.

We would like to once again thank our generous sponsors, all the local businesses that donated great raffle prices, and the many speakers who volunteered their time.

Jennifer Czysz
Sandrine Thibault, AICP
NHPA Conference Co-Chairs

ARE YOU PLANNING TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS?

By Roger Stephenson

Town meetings this past March were replete with discussions and decisions on new fire stations, capital improvement projects, planning ordinances and budget priorities. Voters in 180 towns also had the opportunity to discuss global warming, its impact on New Hampshire and issue a call for action by the next president of the United States to require emissions reductions and support a robust R&D program to foster new and available technologies.

By the end of March, 169 towns presented the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution for a vote and 158 passed the resolution (8 towns will vote May 8 and 9). The New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution was endorsed by the NH Planners Association, the North Country Council, the NH Association of Regional Planning and over thirty other organizations and 9 New Hampshire newspapers.

The resolution contained a provision important locally: “.... and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions.” A sub-group of the Carbon Coalition has been meeting bi-weekly since March 29th to talk about these local energy committees. This subgroup, which includes NH Planners Association vice president Christa Koehler, Clay Mitchell, Wesley Gollum and Maura Adams from the Jordan Institute is working on a handbook that will be available to all local energy committees. Meanwhile, please go to the Carbon Coalition resource page www.carboncoalition.org/community/LocalCommittees.php to find information on starting local energy committees. The Community Toolkit constructed by Clean Air Cool Planet and Jeffrey Taylor Associates is a resource, and the Carbon Coalition would like to add more resources to the list.

Members of the coalition will be holding five regional workshops for people interested in starting local energy committees. The first workshop will be on June 2, from 9-12 am at the Audubon Center on Silk Farm Road in Concord. There will be one other Saturday workshop and three weeknight workshops - places and dates to be determined. Check the Carbon Coalition website in the next couple of weeks for more details.

Please send along your suggestions for more resources to Christa Koehler at ckoehler@cleanair-coolplanet.org and she'll have the Carbon Coalition add to the webpage.